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~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

To : [redacted] Room 1301, "I" Bldg.

From : [redacted]

Subject: Evaluation of the USSR Area Program

1. I believe that background knowledge in the USSR political, social, and economic life is imperative for the work as performed by this seminar's analysts. Therefore the offered courses in history and political and economic principles of the USSR will undoubtedly contribute to the efficiency of the analysts in their daily work.

2. The courses were extremely helpful to me personally, inasmuch as they offered to me a valuable consolidation of facts and developments with which I have partly come in contact.

3a. Considering that the courses were given to a comparatively large group, the scope of the lectures was relevant equally to most of the analysts of this group. It is possible that some of the analysts will have criticized the lack of specific data pertaining to the individual's own work, but it should have been understood that such courses could not cover everybody's speciality.

On the other hand, it was felt that the problems and purposes of the various Five Year-Plans could have been presented more systematically and more effectively. Also the latest developments should have been discussed to a greater extent.

b. I feel that each lecturer made special effort to include and even to underline the intelligence point of view of his lecture. The lectures on Soviet foreign policy by [redacted] gave extremely valuable assistance in the interpretation of possible future developments. Also [redacted] introduction into the Soviet economy by discussing the mobilization problems of the US economy, gave an excellent tool in order to interpret the Soviet problems of planned economy, especially as to its measures and objectives.

c. I would like to suggest a full hour of lecture. A two-hour period seems to be almost too long, especially since the analysts are often pressed on time because of a high-priority project in his own section.

d. I should like to suggest the provision for a discussion period once a week; otherwise I prefer to listen to the lecturers instead of the often biased opinions of the listeners.

4. I do not think that collateral reading should be made mandatory, but a reading list for each course should be prepared for immediate or later use.